



# THE GREYHOUND

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Special Edition

SERVING THE LOYOLA COMMUNITY SINCE 1927

LOYOLA COLLEGE  
BALTIMORE, MD 21210

## Loyola loses a leader, inherits a legacy

Kara Kenna  
Editor-in-chief

The Loyola community bids farewell to its prestigious president who guided the college from a small, all-male local institution to a well-known comprehensive university ranked 11th in the northern region.

Rev. Joseph A. Sellinger, S.J., who served as president since 1964, died Monday, April 19, after a nine month battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 72.

By the time of his death, Fr. Sellinger was the longest tenured president of the 28 Jesuit institutions in the United States, and one of the longest tenured presidents of any college in the country. A friend to all, Fr. Sellinger will be missed dearly.

"Father Sellinger has made a tremendous intellectual and spiritual contribution to the life of Baltimore. I will miss him as a friend and teacher," said Mayor Kurt Schmoke.

According to Mary Joy Riveliois, Fr. Sellinger was a true follower of Saint Ignatius Loyola. He was "warm, wise, witty, always generous with his time and affection; always serving, never asking to be served; always giving, and never asking anything in return; always fighting for others and never counting the wounded; always working for others and never seeking applause; and his life, one of doing God's will without question, always for others."

The second son of Frank and Carolyn Sellinger, Fr. Sellinger was born January 17, 1921, in Philadelphia, Penn. Graduating first in his class at St. Joseph's Preparatory School in Philadelphia, Fr. Sellinger entered the Society of Jesus in 1938. At the age of 17, he was assigned to the seminary at Wernersville, Penn.

Fr. Sellinger told *The Greyhound* several years ago why he entered the priesthood. "I wanted to do something for others. And I used to think a lot about heaven, the afterlife, so I decided to become a priest."

After studying classics and theology, Fr. Sellinger was transferred to Spring Hill College, Alabama, in 1942 to

study chemistry. By 1945, he was teaching chemistry, German, philosophy, and logic at Loyola.

Three years later, Fr. Sellinger continued his training at the Facultes St. Albert de Louvain in Belgium, where he was ordained in 1951. In Belgium, Fr. Sellinger met his life-long friend, Rev. E. Paul Botowski, who described Fr. Sellinger as "friendly, very loving, and at the same time, stern." After two additional years of study in Munster, Germany, he returned to the United States in 1953 to accept a position with the theology department at Georgetown University. In 1956, he became Dean of the Colleges of Arts and Sciences.

Provost and Academic Vice President Thomas Scheye, formerly a Georgetown student, remembers Fr. Sellinger's tenure at the university quite clearly. Addressing Fr. Sellinger during a celebration in honor of his 20th year as Loyola's president, Scheye said, "We got to know each other better, if that is the word, when I was editor of the student paper. You would call me to your office whenever you didn't like something in the paper. This happened about once a week. I can still remember what you said to me - 'bellowed really - 'This is my school, and if you don't like it, you can...' Well, you got the idea."

Rev. Thomas Fitzgerald, professor of classics, also knew Fr. Sellinger at Georgetown. "To be his successor at Georgetown was a great challenge."

Seven years later, Fr. Sellinger was inaugurated as President and Rector of Loyola College in Maryland. The Sellinger era began, leaving its successful mark on the college three decades later.

"Someone once wrote that an institution is the lengthy shadow of a man. Nowhere is that more true than Loyola College, where Loyola is Fr. Sellinger and Fr. Sellinger is Loyola," said Daniel Altobello, chairman of Loyola's Board of Trustees. "The Loyola which he inherited in 1964 and the Loyola of today are vastly different and curiously the same. His leadership is undisputed in all educational circles: his contributions to the Society of Jesus and Loyola are boundless and our loss is irreplaceable. Loyola will thrive long into the future because of Fr. Joe Sellinger's



service, leadership and commitment."

Since his inauguration, Fr. Sellinger presided over many decisions which he once said "have greatly changed the college." In 1967, Hammerman House, Loyola's first dormitory, was opened. The resident hall was built to attract students from all over the country.

During the same year, the Master of Business Administration program was established. Several years later in 1973, under the president's guidance, the business program established the Executive MBA program. Fr. Sellinger believed "this program gave the college the opportunity to be more involved with the business community downtown."

In 1971, Fr. Sellinger pushed for Loyola's merger with Mount St. Agnes College, a Catholic women's school

operated by the Religious Sisters of Mercy in nearby Mt. Washington. This merger created the state's first co-educational Catholic college.

By 1972, eight years after Fr. Sellinger assumed the presidency, the college was becoming extremely popular in the outside world. The administration and faculty had begun the process of integrating ethics and cura personalis - a Latin phrase meaning personal care - with traditions of higher education. However, a suit filed in the federal District Court in 1972 by the American Civil Liberties Union and the Americans United for the Separation of Church and State threatened to slow down the progress initiated by Fr. Sellinger.

The suit, known as *Roemer v. Board of Public Works*, charged that a 1971 law to apportion \$2 million to Maryland's church related colleges and universities

violated the First Amendment's "no establishment." In 1974, the District Court, in a 2-1 decision, ruled against the plaintiffs, noting that the defendant institutions were "substantially autonomous" from churches with which they were affiliated. One week later, the plaintiffs filed an appeal with the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1976, the nation's highest court, in a 5-4 decision, ruled the Maryland's program of aid to provide college's did not violate the First Amendment. Justice Harry Blackburn wrote that Loyola and other colleges were "not pervasively sectarian."

Since the Supreme Court decision, Fr. Sellinger increased the college's expansion. In 1978, the Donnelly Science Center, the John Curley Field, and additional student apartments were constructed; in 1983, the DeChiaro College Center, the McManus Theater, Ritz Arena, and the fine arts facilities were completed; in 1984, the Honors Program was established; finally in 1988, the Marion Burk Knott Hall and the Charles Street pedestrian bridge were constructed. Additionally, in 1988, the Sellinger School of Business and Management earned accreditation from the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business.

As much as these accomplishments were beneficial for the college, Fr. Sellinger found the students, the heart of Loyola, much more important. According to Riveliois, Fr. Sellinger was "troubled that his job took him away

from the classroom," where he had daily interaction with the students.

"The love of Loyola was the ruling passion of his life, and it was what helped to sustain him until the day he died," said Scheye. "The outpouring of affection and respect of our students meant more to him than anyone could imagine. His relationship with the students was truly a love affair, and it lasted every day that he lived."

Perhaps the best that Fr. Sellinger has left to the Loyola community is his religious commitment to the Jesuit values. During the 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Rev. Ron Anton, dean of the Sellinger School of Business and Management, described Fr. Sellinger's commitment and offered it to us to follow. Fr. Anton said, "See, Father starts each day with Mass and prayers. He asks God what God wants him to do that day. At the end of each day, he examines the day to see if he has lived for God or for himself. Every day he lives, as he likes to say, not his way, but God's way. He's lived everyday not for this life but for eternal life. So knowing he is about to die does not change anything. He has been living God's way. We are fortunate; he has been an example in living, now he continues to teach us in dying." With this commitment in mind, the legacy of Fr. Sellinger will live forever in our hearts.

parts of this article was contributed by Mark Kelly, director of public relations.

### The unifying force of leadership: SGA President speaks of Fr. Sellinger's dedication

Robert Kelly  
SGA President

Fr. Sellinger has always been a point of inspiration for me. On any given occasion, his emphasis has always been on truth, faith, honor and responsibility, the ingredients of being a leader. During a meeting, I once asked him what exactly he meant by leadership. He stated, "Leadership is living the fundamental truths of life. Those behind you will learn from your patterned behavior. Without faith in your action, all that you do is without purpose." I thought his statement to be extremely profound. I had always thought that a leader must have strong feelings

ability to foster leadership throughout the student body. Special attention should be placed upon the freshman class. They, according to Father, need the support and guidance of the upperclassmen. First years students are the ones who need to be "poked and prodded." There is a great deal of inspiring curiosity on the part of the freshman and it is crucial that they not be lost. Once a student falls through the cracks, the community is at a loss. A loss that cannot be afforded.

The degree to which the college community came together during the Mass of the Holy Spirit pleased Father. Assembled in the chapel were students of every year, faculty, staff and administrators. During the mass, Fr. Sellinger commented on how touched he was that

**Leadership is living the fundamental truths of life. Those behind you will learn your patterned behavior. Without faith in your action, all that you do is without purpose.**

Rev. Joseph A. Sellinger, S.J.

about the people he represents. I now know that it is more important to believe in those feelings, than simply to have them. A leader must convey to others his reasons of faith and convictions.

Last summer, I received a fellowship to study and work in Washington, D.C. The fellowship focused on leadership in a changing and diverse world. I sent Fr. Sellinger a "thank-you" note to let him know how much I was enjoying the program. I told him about the breakfasts at the Capitol, meetings with representatives, and of all the other students I had met. Fr. Sellinger took time out of his busy schedule to respond to my letter. He told me that he was glad I was enjoying the program and to pay close attention to what I was learning. He stated, that as SGA President, I had a responsi-

everyone was in attendance. When the freshman class sponsored the Lessons and Carols Festival at Christmas, Father said that he was so honored and proud that the student body has a sense of unity and more important, pride. He also stated that "it is of utmost importance that we say nice things to each other all of the time. That we perform kind of gestures for each other all of the time."

Fr. Sellinger always made time for students. Whether he made an appearance at an SGA event, or jotted a little note for the student body, he created a force, a feeling of unity and support that will forever be a part of this campus. As members of the student body, we must spread this force and carry it about the Evergreen Campus and beyond.

## Faculty members fondly remember Fr. Sellinger

Catherine Bick  
News Staff Reporter

Dr. Antonia Keane, professor of sociology, came to Loyola in 1969. She said Fr. Sellinger "wasn't on campus the day she was hired and has said that if he was she wouldn't have been." It's "always been a very funny, back and forth relationship, a teasing relationship." She remembers one Preakness Day when Fr. Sellinger walked by with someone, and seeing Keane on the phone asked her if she was "calling her bookie."

Keane recalled one of the first times she met Fr. Sellinger. She was secretary of the faculty organization at a time when there were only five women on the faculty. She guesses he was "uncomfortable with the female presence" and asked her to have a drink before lunch. Not in the habit of drinking during the working day, she refused, only to have him ask, "Can't you handle it?" Keane's response was "Scotch neat." She remembers nothing of the complicating theory class she taught that afternoon.

"Father at social functions was someone you noticed," Keane said. Commenting on his "commanding presence," she said it was something uncommon, "difficult to find."

He was also "tough, someone you'd want on your side." "One of the things this school will miss the most," according to Keane, is Sellinger's "strong moral

sense, sense of right and wrong." "You knew if all else failed you could go see Father, added Keane. "You rarely did it, but you knew he was there. He was a deep feeling person. He never let it show, but you always knew."

Keane spoke with Father Sellinger in August, reporting that he "said he was overwhelmed by the outpouring of emotion." "We both filled up with tears for the 'first time in 23 years.' She expressed a wish that she and a lot of other people knew better that side of him. The "fitness cut through some of the defenses."

Keane remembers 1986, when she was receiving the Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award, a "professional high point." Fr. Sellinger announced the award,

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mistakenly saying she was in the theology department. To this she responded, "You Jesuits are liberal but not that liberal. I'm in the sociology department." She recalls that the "whole place was roaring" and that she and Sellinger just "laughed and kissed."

Another memory which, for her, demonstrates their relationship: Keane was in a "nice, quiet, elegant Society Hill restau-

rant. There were uncovered oil lamps in the restaurant and Keane's menu caught on fire. In the midst of the commotion Keane heard a voice from across the room. "I know her. I'm her boss and she starts trouble everywhere she goes." "It was Father," she said.

"Father was one of the most democratic people you'll ever meet," Keane said. He "never lorded" and was "just as friendly to the physical plant worker as he was to Bob Hope." She said he was "from modest beginnings" and "never got a swelled head." "That's very special."

One moment which typifies this view of Sellinger for Keane is his recollection of the physical plant worker

who returned a student's lost envelope of money earlier this year. Putting his arm around the man, Fr. Sellinger said, "This is Loyola College."

Dr. Van Doren, professor of marketing, first met Fr. Sellinger 10 years ago in an interview at the president's house. It was June, she remembers, and she was waiting for her interview

when "a man in a golf shirt walked in with his dog." They "chatted about his dog, a Labrador." Van Doren had also had a lab. He left, saying he had to get ready for an interview. Van Doren remembers her surprise when she was called into the office and found out that the man was Fr. Sellinger. For her, this incident really demonstrates his character. She wouldn't think that the president of the college would "chat with her in a golf shirt."

Fr. Sellinger was "warm, different, my friend," said Van Doren. She recalled one time when she was "crying while packing her trunk. I didn't think anyone saw me." Fr. Sellinger did see her and "walked up, put his arms around me and literally wiped my tears away."

Fr. Sellinger is a "warm, accepting and strong" person. "Someone who can laugh with you, see you cry and then turn around and be Fr. Sellinger."

Dr. Bernard Weigman, professor of physics, came to Loyola in 1958, before Fr. Sellinger. When Sellinger did take over as president, "the students in the physics department thought it would be nice to have a reception to honor him and so they could get to know each other." So, Weigman reported, the reception was arranged. "Fr. Sellinger was impressed," he said. "There has been a special relationship between physics and Fr. Sellinger through the years."

Weigman interacted with Sellinger in many ways-- rank and tenure profes-

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# TRIBUTE TO FATHER SELLINGER



College President Rev. Joseph A. Sellinger sits with Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr., Governor William Donald Schaefer and Speaker R. Clayton Mitchell Jr. and the Loyola contingent, during a ceremony naming a state higher education aid program in the president's honor. The ceremony took place Janunry 21, 1993 in Annapolis. According to the preamble of the constitution, naming the program after Fr. Sellinger honors "his contributions to Maryland life and recognizes his leadership, commitment, and legacy to the education of Maryland citizens." The Loyola president "has been an inspiration and guiding light to so many men and women. The governor hnd praised Fr. Sellinger during the ceremony for creating the state package used to give aid to private colleges in 1971.



Campus police boot the wrong tire



Mr. Joseph S. Keelty, president of James Keelty & Co. Inc., accepts a Volunteer Leadership Award from Fr. Sellinger October '84

USF&G Open - New Orleans  
March 14, 1983  
Fr. Sellinger and Golf Pro Curtis Strange



*If true friendships are only built with the passage of time, then the friendship between Rev. Joseph A. Sellinger, S.J., and the legendary Bob Hape rests an a strang foundation indeed. Far mare than three decades, these twa men have rejaiced in each others' success, exchanged advice, and shared the trials and tribulations of an enduring fascination with golf.*

Public Relations, Loyola College



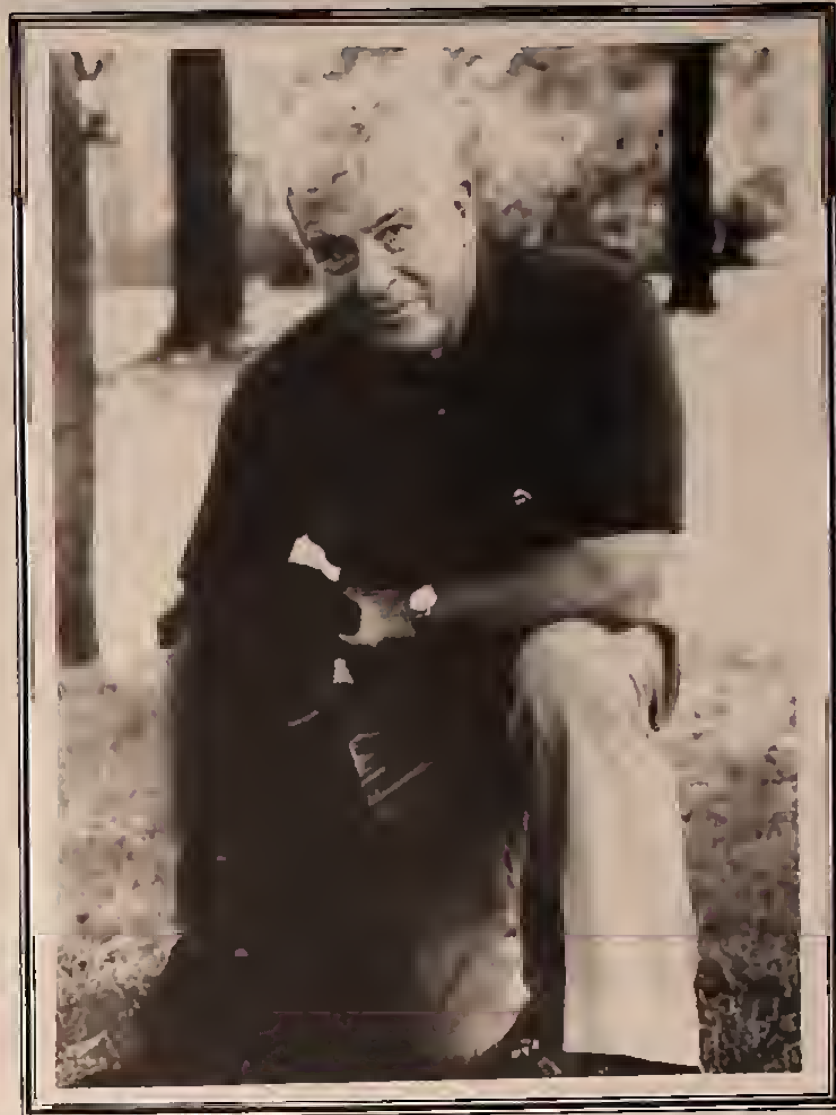
Young Joseph A. Sellinger with his parents, Carolyn and Frank Sellinger.



# TRIBUTE TO FATHER SELLINGER

*"Man gifted with conscience, intelligence and power is indeed a center ... called to go out of himself ... to give himself."*

*-- Very Reverend Pedro Arrupe, S.J.,  
Former Superior General,  
Society of Jesus*



College President Joseph A. Sellinger and the Very Reverend Pedro Arrupe

*"For more than three decades, Fr. Sellinger has been one of Maryland's most influential and respected educational, religious, and civic leaders. He has played a pivotal role in forging the partnership between independent higher education and the state, touching the lives of countless men and women with his devotion to learning." --- Gov. William Schaefer*



Fr. Sellinger buried a time capsule during the 125th anniversary celebration of Loyola.



Fr. Sellinger and Ed McMahon



# TRIBUTE TO FATHER SELLINGER

## Faculty members remember Fr. Sellinger

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sor, chairman of the board, etc. Weigman was on the College Council and remembers when Sellinger "came before the council" in support of the institution of "Doctor of Education." Fairly recently, Weigman was asked by Fr. Sellinger to head a capital development plan at Loyola called "Renewing our Promise." They "were trying to get 100 percent contribution to the campaign." Their goal was one half million dollars. It was exceeded. "Many people wanted to give to Fr. Sellinger," he recalled.

The day he found out about Fr. Sellinger's illness, July 4, remains clear in Weigman's memory. He remembers reading the simple notice in Weigman's memory. He remembers reading the simple notice. "It hit me like a ton of bricks."

"It is hard to be president of something for a real long time," said Weigman. "Things can't go well forever. But Sellinger was able to come up with a new vision that kept the college and him going." He noted some of the improvements at Loyola since Fr. Sellinger came and it was "an all male commuter school." "The

first thing he did was get extra ground and build dorms," he recalled. Some other achievements: making Loyola coed, building the science center, the college center, getting artificial turf, the Loyola Notre Dame Library, the apartments, the bridge and instituting the MBA and graduate engineering programs. "They were all definite goals, not growth for growth's sake." Weigman stated, "They were not all his ideas, but he had the year or nay." He looked at (each idea) like a puzzle, to see if it fit."

Fr. Sellinger had an "incredible impact on people." Weigman said everyone had a different reason for liking him-- "his sense of humor, etc." He took an interest in people. "This really 'impressed' Weigman. "It was amazing how many people in the state of Maryland he touched." Weigman said that "people would say 'God I really love that man' first. "His accomplishment are secondary. He is a wonderful priest."

## The golden memories of a student leader

Eileen Simonson  
Sophomore Class President

I'll never forget the first time I met Father Sellinger. I was the newly elected freshman class president and one of my first duties was to help with the Festival of Lessons and Carols. Father Nash, the director of campus ministries at the time, volunteered to meet me and discuss the plans. After our meeting, Fr. Nash invited me to have lunch with him in what is now the "old" Jesuit Residence. I was thrilled because I had only been on campus for two months and had wanted the chance to look around inside the beautiful building. Little did I know that while I was eating and talking to Fr. Nash, Fr. Sellinger was sitting behind me.

After we finished eating Fr. Nash and I stood up to take our trays to a counter on the other side of the room. When I turned around and saw Fr. Sellinger sitting there, I almost dropped my tray. I had seen him once or twice at an open house during my senior year, but I had never been in the same room as him! Fr. Nash introduced us and like the perfect gentleman that he was, Fr. Sellinger put down his fork and stood to shake my hand. He asked me where I was from, how I like college so

far, and if I had enjoyed my lunch. He was so personable and friendly. He really made me feel like gold. During our conversation, I couldn't help but think I was standing there talking to the president of the college.

I was so excited that I didn't know who to tell first. Each of my three roommates listened patiently as I told my story over and over for the next few days. Each time the phone rang, my family member or friend on the other end heard the news. To this day, my roommates still tease me about my excitement.

Since I was introduced to Fr. Sellinger in November of 1991, to as

amazing that this man who knew so many people would stop and talk to a freshman from Glenside, Penn.

One of my fondest memories of Fr. Sellinger was standing beside him at the Freshman Class Mass in May of 1992. When planning our class events for the second semester of freshman year, the class representatives and I had begun-- with a class mass. We thought this was appropriate to the ideals taught at Loyola, a Jesuit institution dedicated to strong truths well lived. Fr. Sellinger, as president, provided the best example of that dedication, so we agreed to ask him to serve as our main celebrant.

freshman class? I decided the worst he could say was no. This would not have been the end of the world and I would always have the peace of mind knowing that I had tried.

Once again, Father made me feel like gold when he graciously accepted our invitation. He stood on the altar that day, dedicated to his vocation as a Jesuit. Before closing mass, he spoke to the class of 1995 and wished us well as we approached our final examinations. I remember him congratulating all of us for holding onto our faith as we became young adults. He closed mass then spent a few moments talking with some of my classmates outside Alumnae Chapel.

I remember standing next to him as we posed for a picture together. I was so honored when that picture appeared in the 1991-92 Loyola yearbook. It would remain as an everlasting reminder of the last time Fr. Sellinger said mass for the Class of 1995.

Thanks to Fr. Sellinger, I learned that taking chances can lead to very happy memories. Memories of the president, who had been on campus for close to 30 years, befriending a freshman who had just arrived.

*Thanks to Father Sellinger, I learned that taking chances can lead to very happy memories. Memories of the president, who had been on campus for close to thirty years, befriending a freshman who had just arrived.*

*Eileen Simonson, sophomore class president*

recently as St. Patrick's Day of 1993, he still makes me feel like gold. Each time I saw him, he stopped and asked me about Student Government, my plans for an approaching holiday, or my academic progress. He never forgot my name, hometown or class year. I thought it was

After this decision was made, I remember feeling uncomfortable and thinking maybe he was too busy or had other plans. I think the problem was that deep down I was afraid he would say no. Would the president of the college be willing to spend an afternoon with the

## Reflections from the Board of Trustees

Father Joe's passion for Life, his brilliant mind and wonderful sense of humor have helped to create a world richer in hope ... deeper in faith ... and filled with a greater grace. He has been a guiding light along the way for me and for so many. To walk beside him is to catch a glimpse of the God who loves us all so completely.

*Mrs. Mary Cunningham Agee,  
The Nurturing Network*

Father Joe and I go back a long way. There are thousands of memories and countless stories. Once in a golf match at an XMBA outing, he and I were teamed up against two of my classmates, Jack O'Malley and George Adams. George and Jack were up on Father Joe and me on spectacular (if - unusual) play by George. At about the 13th hole as a gesture of kindness to George, Father Joe took George's golf ball and cleaned it for George. From that point in the match, George never holed a winning putt. Father Joe and I went on to win the match and to this day, George is sure that Father Joe put a hex on his ball.

All have laughed over this "supernatural" help to the Seller Team-- none laughed louder than Joe. He loved to compete and oh how he loved to win. If a little hex could help, so be it.

Father Joe's smile is stilled. But his influence on everyone he ever met lives on and on in our great memories of his life. He taught us to live and he has taught us to die.

*Mr. Daniel Altobello, Chairman,  
President & CEO,  
Caterair International Corp.*

Two occasions relating to Joe Sellinger's kindness stand out in my memory. At graduation five years ago, when a president is very busy about many things, Joe made sure my mother, then age 84, was acknowledged and introduced at the reception. She was thrilled to meet Jennings, the ABC anchor. This was the year I received the Alumnus Award.

This past year at the President's Dinner for the Trustees, an emotional time since it was our first contact after his diagnosis, Joe again went out of the way to acknowledge my mother's presence as the most senior person (88). His quiet subsequent request for her prayers has elicited a daily remembrance from her even to this day.

*Rev. Robert C. Baumiller, S.J.,  
Dean of Health Sciences,  
University of Detroit Mercy*

Father Sellinger has an uncanny knack for understanding how to handle unusual or personal situations so that the person feels comfortable in non-traditional environments. I remember at my first Loyola College retreat at the Homestead an announcement was made that we were going to have Mass on Friday night. Well, Friday night is the beginning of my Sabbath and I was wondering

how Mass and my Friday night rituals were going to work out together. On Friday, Father Joe asked me if I would like to light Sabbath candles at the beginning of Mass and say the traditional prayers that I would have said were I at home. The handling of this situation was done with finesse and care to ensure a comfort level for all.

PS. - I enjoyed Mass also.

*Mrs. Phyllis B. Brotman, CEO,  
President & Founder,  
Image Dynamics, Inc.*

My friendship with Father Joe Sellinger spans more than twenty years. Ever since our initial meeting on the campus of Loyola I knew I had met a true son of Ignatius Loyola. I was told about Ignatius as the warrior saint ... a saint that has no fear as a warrior, a priest and General of the Society. In his sterling leadership of Loyola College Father Joe has manifested that same Ignatian idealism ... dedication to excellence, both spiritual and academic; commitment to the betterment of Loyola, Baltimore and every person that he met. His personality made him a "man for every season and a priest for every individual." Father Joe had that uncanny ability to converse with the greatest ... but never lost the common touch. He was always a priest, a gentleman and a true, true friend. These qualities he infused into Loyola College to make it a premier Liberal Arts Institution.

When God calls this noble Ignatian warrior home, I will lose my greatest friend. Yet, he will return to his Lord in heaven, where he will be my friend and a friend of Loyola and every person he met in life. Father Joe did not forget his friends in life; he will pray for us in death. Father Joe, I hope to meet you in heaven.

*Mr. Ralph A. DeChiaro (Emeritus),  
DeChiaro Properties*

I have known Fr. Sellinger since I was a student at Loyola. He is someone I'd like to imitate especially on issues of how to die. He's certainly a great man. He's transformed the college in my eyes. If there are any halos to be passed out, he should get one.

*Mr. John C. Evelius, Esq., Gallagher,  
Evelius & Jones*

The celebration marking Father Joe's 25th year as President of Loyola College and 50th year as a Jesuit was most memorable, as it brought together many old friends, the master comedian Bob Hope who poked a little fun at Father Joe's golf game, and centered on one of Father's most memorable past-times-- fundraising. The gala event will be long remembered for the ambience created and the \$1 million raised which stands as the single largest fundraising gala in Baltimore's history.

The above event was truly a tribute to Father Joe for without his leadership

and successful presence over the years, such would never have occurred.

*Mr. Richard E. Hug,  
Chairman of the Board,  
Environmental Elements Corp.*

What I appreciate and respect about our President, Father Sellinger, is his consistent references to the contribution of the Sisters of Mercy to Loyola College.

And I remember with awe, Father's trip to El Salvador and the value that experience gave to his life.

I am grateful for my time at the college on the faculty and on the Board.  
*Ms. Catherine Kelly,  
Nurse Manager, Outpatient Services,  
Mercy Medical Center*

I've had the pleasure of playing golf with Father Joe for several years and he has won more than his share of my money. I will always remember his reaction to both good and bad golf shots.

Good Shots - "That dog will hunt!"  
Bad Shots - "Josey what are you doing!"

There has never been a more competitive golfer that is more fun to play with or against.

*Mr. John I. Leahy,  
Chairman of the Board,  
Master Power, Inc.*

My first encounter with Father Sellinger came in the summer of 1959 in the Jesuit residence at Georgetown University. Hurrying down the same corridor from opposite directions we almost collided. Without missing a step and continuing on his way, he apologized, introduced himself and threw a barrage of questions at me which in order to answer I had to reverse my steps and rush down the corridor with him.

Afterwards I marveled how a man on the move, a man in a hurry, could manifest such a personal interest in someone whom he had never met before. I found in all my subsequent meetings with Father Sellinger that this was part of the beauty and genius of this remarkable man: always moving forward and always sensitive toward others. The other part flowed from his ability to attract others to move with him even if they had to reverse their course.

Saint Paul speaks about his racing ahead to capture the prize God has for him. Father Sellinger has run that race at his life and how blessed so many of us are that he brought us along with him.  
*Rev. James F. McAndrews, S.J.,  
President, Loyola High School*

My fond memories of two decades of association with Father Joe:

- \*He is a good listener.
- \*He is tough.
- \*He lets you know when he is angry.
- \*He is a hobo athlete but what a competitor.
- \*He surrounds himself with good people and is a great orchestra leader.

\*He always has a lot of fun in what ever he is doing.

\*He is my best friend.

*Patrick J. McDonough, Jr., President,  
The Henry J. Knott, Jr. Group*

I have known Fr. Sellinger for many years, 14 or 15 years. He's been a tremendous wonder for the school. His enthusiasm and attitude towards his illness, I really marvel at and am amazed. I am hoping for [his] quality of life and miracle. He is an inspiration to me. I've known him socially and in a business atmosphere. Loyola wouldn't be where it is without him.

*Mr. Lawrence R. Rachuba,  
President,  
Rachuba Enterprises, Inc.*

The heads of local companies have annually had an overnight golf outing each summer, and Father Joe was usually there. The events are fun filled with golf, wonderful food, and fellowship.

Father was part of it all. He never missed a golf game, or passed up a meal. He loved to play the game, and he always made it fun for his partners.

He's a pretty strong guy and can hit the ball a ton, but usually in directions that defy the imagination. We always played a game with a special ball called the flying lady. If you lost the ball in the water, you lost the game. I don't recall Father ever winning that game.

But he won his share of everything else and usually went home with his share of the prizes.

As I think back to those wonderful events, Father Joe always stands out as a fun guy, who loved people, loved the competition, and added much to the glory of the time.

It's winter now so there's little golf. But come the spring, I look forward to seeing Father Joe on the course, and as usual, hitting balls in all directions.  
*Harry Robinson,  
Loyola College MBA '80*

Fr. Sellinger is Loyola College. He is important everywhere. His concern, care and love are evident. The students were always the focus of his many endeavors. His life was given to providing Jesuit education for the many students of Loyola College. His legacy is in the hearts and the spirit of those many women and men who, like Father Sellinger, live their lives for others.

*Rev. John P. Schlegel, S.J., President,  
University of San Francisco*

What stands out in my mind is the merger of Mount St. Agnes. Father displayed extra leadership and ability to change...to take some risks.

*Sr. M. Judith Schmeltz, R.S.M., Director,  
Learning Bank*

*compiled by Jennifer Brennan and  
Kara Kenna*

## Fr. Sellinger: A father to all

By: Kevin R. Dillon

"He taught me and said to me: 'Let your heart hold fast my words.' (Proverbs 4:4). To me, this was what Fr. Sellinger's life was all about. He seemed to leave a lasting impression on everyone he came in contact with. He lived to teach us how to live as Christians; how to make a difference in this world. In doing so, he accomplished these very tasks himself."

I remember passing Fr. Sellinger on campus. He always waved. I remember the time I forgot to put a chair out for him at mass. He had to sit in a pew with me. To make matters worse, I forgot to light the candles so I had to crawl back over him to sit down. But after that mass, he still thanked me for being there and smiled that warm, bright smile of his.

There are many other memories, as well. Little things that I picked up here and there about how he related to people and how he made people feel comfortable. As an editor of the yearbook in the fall of 1990, I had the distinct honor of presenting the 1990 yearbook to Fr. Sellinger. I, along with Cindy Allan and Cynthia Plais, met with Father not only to show him the past year's yearbook, but to talk with him about the upcoming yearbook.

We were a new staff and we were very unclear about where we were going with the theme. We informed him that we were calling the book "Have You Heard?" and that we wanted to tell the readers about all that Loyola had to offer.

He instantly took an interest and offered a great deal of help. He told us who we should talk to and gave us ideas about what type of things we should cover. He told us to let him know if he could be of any help.

I saw something in him that day that I really liked. His way of talking with us and not just to us, impressed me. I got the feeling that he was on our level and that his concern was real.

I have learned the most about his life, though, through his illness. I have seen him a lot this year. I have talked to many people who were close to him, and I have learned that he has done so much for so many people. My words cannot ever describe how much he has given to this world.

I found out about Fr. Sellinger's illness on July 6. The campus was gearing up for the third of four summer orientation sessions. Cindy Allan, Rachel Pomerantz and I met with Father shortly after that and presented him with a framed picture of the chapel that had been hanging in the yearbook office. He was very appreciative and his face beamed as he placed the picture on his mantle right next to the picture of his parents. As he continued to talk, one of us mentioned how grateful we were for all he has done and that Loyola is what it is

because of him. "This place is my life," he said with a twinkle in his eye and a smile on his face.

In parting, I shook his hand and he asked me to keep him in my prayers.

His energy over the last nine months has been amazing. In fact, his energy for the past 29 years has been nothing short of amazing.

As I continue to research his life, I am always talking to people who tell me what a wonderful person he was and how much Loyola meant to him. Strength, friendliness, concern, fun, full of life. These are all words that have been used to describe him. His life was one that taught us a lot. Fr. Sellinger's life has been an inspiration to us all.

During the Christmas season, the members of the Green and Grey Society put up a large poster paper and invited the college community to turn it into a petition of love for Fr. Sellinger. Through words, sayings, quotes, songs and signatures, the college community told Fr. Sellinger how much they cared for him.

Fr. Sellinger, in his own words, has "made Loyola his life." This is so apparent as anyone looks around our Evergreen campus. Much of what is seen is a result of Father's tireless efforts to make Loyola a well-respected college community. Under Father's leadership, Loyola has become much more than buildings, classes and studying; we have become a family.

We added the prefix "father" to his name not only because he was a Jesuit priest, but also because, in many ways, he is the "father" of Loyola; a father to us all.

At Lessons and Carols in December, Fr. Sellinger read from the gospel according to John. "What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all the people. The light shines in darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God..." To me, this is Fr. Sellinger.

So what do we do now? Fr. Sellinger lived for 72 years. We all have unique, warm, loving memories of him. He has given us so much, blessed us with so much, loved us like a father, and been a true inspiration. He has, and always will, exemplify the college motto "Strong Truths, Well Lived."

What we should do now is celebrate his life, and in doing so see that he is a true person of God. He is someone who lived as Jesus did. Fr. Sellinger taught us well and he continues to say to us, "Let your heart hold fast my words." In closing, and grappling with the question of what we do now, I am again reminded of Fr. Sellinger's own words to offer an answer: "The past is a dream, the future is a vision, the present, well-lived, will make of the past a dream of beauty and of the future a vision of hope."